

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9250

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 3792

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CH, TW, US, UR

SUBJECT: GOVERNOR SCRANTON MEETS CHINA'S PERMANENT

REPRESENTATIVE HUANG HUA ON OCCASION OF SIGNING

CONDOLENCE BOOK FOR CHAIRMAN MAO, SEPTEMBER 16, 1976

1. GOVERNOR SCRANTON CALLED AT CHINA'S MISSION ON SEPTEMBER 16 TO SIGN CONDOLENCE BOOK FOR CHAIRMAN MAO. A LARGE PICTURE OF MAO WAS DRAPED IN BLACK AND THE SIZEABLE ROOM IN WHICH IT WAS DISPLAYED AND THE CONDOLENCE BOOK WAS SITUATED WAS BANKED WITH MASSES OF YELLOW AND WHITE FLOWERS.

2. AFTER SCRANTON SIGNED THE BOOK, CHINA'S PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE HUANG HUA LED HIM TO A SMALL SITTING ROOM FOR A TWENTY-MINUTE CONVERSATION.

3. SCRANTON EXPRESSED DEEP SYMPATHY ON THE PASSING OF SO IMPORTANT AND SIGNIFICANT A WORLD FIGURE. HE UNDERLINED THE AMERICAN PEOPLE'S RESPECT, TRUST AND AFFECTION FOR THE CHINESE PEOPLE. HE NOTED THE GREAT ATTENTION GIVEN MAO'S PASSING BY THE AMERICAN PRESS. HUAN HUA THANKED SCRANTON AND EMPAHSIZED THE SURPRISING BREADTH OF SYMPATHY IN THE UNITED STATES FOR MAO. EACH DAY HIS  
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MISSION WAS RECEIVING MANY LETTERS AND TELEGRAMS OF

SYMPATHY FROM PEOPLE IT DID NOT EVEN KNOW. HUAN LAMENTED MAO'S DEATH AND SAID THAT HE AND THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE WOULD ALWAYS BE GUIDED BY MAO'S TEACHINGS AND WRITINGS.

4. HUANG THEN WARNED OF THE DANGERS OF "DETENTE". HE RECALLED DELADIER AND CHAMBERLINE AS SUPPORTERS OF "DETENTE" AT AN EARLIERTIME AND HE SAID THAT THEIR EFFORTS PROBABLY HASTENED WAR RATHER THAN DEFERRED IT. HE DEPLORED THE FACT THAT SOME EUROPEAN COUNTRIES WERE QUALLING BEFORE THE SOVIETS. HE CONTINUED THAT BRITAIN WAS ALREADY FACING AN "ECONOMIC DUNKERQUE" AND THAT "POLITICAL AND MILITARY DUNKERQUES" COULD READILY DEVELOP FOR THE WEST IF "DETENTE" WERE PURSUED. HE WARNED AGAINST SOVIET BETRAYAL OF GUILLE.

5. SCRANTON REPLIED THAT "DETENTE" STEMMED DIRECTLY FROM THE NEED TO TRY TO COPE WITH THE PROBLEM OF THE EXISTENCE OF WEAPONS OF TOTAL AND MASS DESTRUCTION CAPABILITIES ON THIS EARTH. SCRANTON ASSURED HUANG THAT WE WERE ALERT REGARDING DECEPTION AND BETRAYAL ON THE PART OF THE SOVIETS. HE UNDERLINED TOO THE DEPTH OF AWARENESS IN THE BROAD AMERICAN PUBLIC OF THE SOVIET THREAT. SCRANTON THEN REEMPHAZIED FEELINGS OF TRUST, RESPECT, AND ADMIRATION WHICH AMERICANS IN ALL WALKS OF LIFE AND IN ALL REGIONS OF THE UNITED STATES HOLD FOR THE CHINESE.

6. HUANG THANKED SCRANTON FOR THIS AND THEY EXCHANGED CORDIAL GOOD-BYES.  
SCRANTON

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